

New-York Daily Tribune

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1864.

To Correspondents.
No notice can be taken of Anonymous Communications.
Whatever is intended for insertion must be accompanied by the name and address of the writer, and not necessarily for publication, but as a guarantee for the good faith.
All business letters for this office should be addressed to "The Tribune," New-York.
We cannot undertake to return rejected Communications.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

THE WAR.

Richmond papers of Tuesday have accounts of Sherman's movements, although not of a very definite character. The head of his column was reported to be within eighteen miles of Macon, and advancing in that direction. Reliable telegraphic communication was open only as far as Milldeville, beyond which place the lines seem to have been interrupted. Richmond papers contain nothing else of importance.

Nearly all the Confederates from various parts of Tennessee and Mississippi in Memphis were arrested on Monday and Tuesday last. They came to sell cotton, or procure supplies, under the impression that they could go home. It was thought that so many able-bodied men could not live in the Confederacy without being identified with the Rebel army.

After Gen. Gillen's recent defeat, Breckinridge advanced to Strawberry Plains and Blair's Cross Roads, threatening Knoxville and Cumberland Gap. On the 21st Breckinridge advanced to Powell's Bridge, six miles from Cumberland Gap, and there was heavy skirmishing all day. Burleigh has moved out from Lexington with a strong force to protect the Kentucky border.

A letter, dated Nov. 11, has been received by the father of Acting Assistant Surgeon Cushing, of Boston, who has had charge of Gen. Canby since he was wounded. This states that the General is improving rapidly and will soon be able to attend to that part of his duties which do not require active exercise.

About twenty deserters came into our lines on Tuesday night. They stated that they had just heard of Lincoln's reelection, and, having lost all hope of a speedy peace, determined to fight no longer.

One hundred and fifty Texan conscripts crossed the Mississippi River at Union Point, four days since, for the Rebel Army of the Mississippi.

GENERAL NEWS.

We never saw such a general and genial appreciation and enjoyment of a holiday as yesterday. Business not immediately affecting the enjoyment of the people was suspended, and the people swarmed forth to churches, or visiting excursions, and to places of entertainment. The day was fine and cool, and the spirit of the people seemed unusually pacific. There was not a disturbance worth mentioning in the metropolitan area—not even a fight; there was not a fire, nor was there any accident of moment. It was a day of thorough enjoyment and will long be remembered as the most widely and worthily observed of any Thanksgiving since this peculiarly American festival was inaugurated.

Some of the holders of the seven-thirty Treasury Notes, issued under the act of July 17, 1864, confessed that they have a claim upon the Treasury Department for permission to pay them for cash; and with a view of testing the validity of this claim, it is stated that a tender of them for duties has been made by Richard D. Perry to the Collector of New-York City, and refused by him, and a suit for trover has been commenced in the United States Circuit Court, before Judge Nelson. The amount of notes outstanding November 1, 1864, was \$1,145,000, a part of which have since been converted.

At the city election in Portsmouth, N. H., on Wednesday, John Bailey, rep., was elected Mayor, receiving 999 votes, to 335 votes for Gen. Chase, R. Pease, Democrat, Republican majority, 664. The Republicans elected the city officers in each of the three wards. At the municipal election in Dover the Hon. Wm. Essex (Union Republican) was re-elected Mayor by 300 majority.

The special letting of jute canvas mail sacks, such as may from time to time be required for the transmission of printed mail matter until the 30th of June next, took place at the Department on Wednesday afternoon. After due consideration, Postmaster General Dennison awarded the contract to Mr. C. H. Tyler of New-York City, as the lowest bidder.

Returns of nearly all the votes cast at the recent State and national elections in Massachusetts have been received at the State House. They make a formidable array. The Council are now engaged in the work of counting, beginning with the Presidential Electors.

Professor Benjamin Silliman, senior, expired at his residence, in New-Haven, on Thursday morning, aged 84.

We have reports from 64 Counties in Iowa, of which only five give Democratic majorities. These five are Dubuque (the only strong Copperhead nest in the State), which gives 1,575, and Buena Vista, Osceola, Plymouth, and Sioux, all of which give 68, or 17 each.

The Sun will oblige us by stating how far, in its opinion, its correspondent, "B. Donin," has succeeded in proving his assertion that THE TRIBUNE contemplates the reform of our City Government through Albany legislation. If he has not even begun to prove this, what sense can there be in his columns of talk about everything else?

YESTERDAY.

Our columns this morning reflect to some extent, and yet but faintly, the religious enthusiasm which yesterday overflowed the country. There never was a Thanksgiving so generally observed, and never one observed with such fervor of devout recognition by the people of the great meritorious which were the occasion and the inspiration of this ceremony. The churches were opened for something more than the form of service, and those who sought elsewhere than in churches the means to express their joyful gratitude, converted even festive observances into a religious rite. We rejoice to note in such addresses as are reported that the deep meaning of this day, and the true causes which made it one of thanksgiving, are heartily seen into and courageously stated. The security of Union and Freedom in the future—a security won out of our double victory, as Gen. Grant justly phrased it—that is what the churches and people thanked God for yesterday.

We point to the general observance of this day as an emblem of the ever-widening influence which the dear old Puritan customs obtain throughout the country. New-England, which is the birth-place of the ideas that rule the continent, instructs her fellow-commonwealths also in those customs which were the outgrowth of her institutions and peculiar creeds, and inevitable bent toward ecclesiastical observances. Massachusetts—which is New-England in a condensed form—dictates even the day which the President of the United States selects for Thanksgiving; for that State always sets apart the last Thursday

of November in which to gather into one sheaf her many days of joyful gratitude for the meritorious of the year. The day has been more or less generally adopted in other States, but never, of course, with the unanimity which followed upon the proclamation of the President. And never before was there either such cause for rejoicing, or a spirit among the people so lofty, so patriotic, so reverent, as yesterday. We may well believe that "righteousness exalteth a nation," and that it adds even to that devotion which, for the cause of the country, has proved itself, in the last four years, zealous to offer the noblest sacrifices.

We trust that in the camps on the James and in the fleets on the Atlantic coast there was something like a home Thanksgiving. The soldiers and sailors did at any rate know they had been remembered by those at home, and the day cannot but have been endeared to them by tender memories, as well as by the new zeal which it kindled in their breasts for the principles they defend. The camp, could we but have seen it yesterday, would have taught us a lesson, and the rough talk of the soldier would have seemed to one who knew its honest heartiness an expression of thanks not less solemn than the utterances of the pulpit at home. There was, in fact, no place on this continent where the well-wishers of the Republic did not unite in a celebration of the new hopes and the joyful certainty which belong to this period of the country's history.

GENERAL SHERMAN'S CAMPAIGN.

The news from Gen. Sherman is vague and imperfect, but very interesting. It is certain that on Saturday or Sunday last—the accounts differ—he was within eighteen miles of Macon, and that up to that point his march had been unopposed. It is further reported that a column, probably of cavalry, had entered Milldeville, and captured, among other trophies, part of the Georgia Legislature, which was in session. The admission by the Richmond papers of Sherman's presence near Macon on the 18th shows with what steadiness the plan of his march had thus far been accomplished. He started on the 12th from Atlanta, and expected to move on an average fifteen miles a day. Macon is 104 miles from Atlanta—just seven days' march; and it appears that the army had actually accomplished very nearly that precise rate. Of course there can have been no opposition whatever to their advance.

Now fifteen miles a day, which the order of Gen. Sherman prescribes for his troops, is extremely rapid traveling for a column forty thousand strong; and it is especially difficult for such a column to get over that distance in the beginning of its progress. An army is like a machine, or rather it is a machine, and its different parts do not all at once when the steam is first let on move smoothly together. The fact, therefore, that Sherman has at the very outset brought his army along on schedule time, is proof enough how perfectly it is organized, and how completely this magnificent body of veterans has become molded into the expression of one man's irresistible purpose.

We have no doubt that Gen. Sherman reached, and little doubt that he occupied Macon without a contest early in the present week. Something has been said of the forces under Messrs. Howell Cobb and Gustavus Smith, but the armies which those leaders marshal, are, if they have any existence out of the Richmond papers, wholly composed of Georgia militia; a class of troops never mentioned in the Rebel press without contempt, except when they become the only resource for terrifying the North. On such occasions they answer well enough for scarecrows, but we do not apprehend that it is either feared or expected that these warriors will seriously try to interfere with Gen. Sherman. The defenses, so called, of Macon may or may not be considerable, but they will not be held against Sherman by Georgia militia. It is worth remarking, further, that in the same papers which threaten disaster to Sherman at the hands of these vagabonds, the spirit and even the disposition of the Georgians are sharply reproached. The Richmond Sentinel confesses to an "apprehension that the people there will not exhibit a spirit and devotion suitable to the occasion." Georgia "has been distracted by bad politicians. . . . The course pursued by Gov. Brown and others is doing a great deal of mischief. . . . The Confederate authorities he impedes at every step of their legitimate duty. . . . Georgia is not ready, we fear, for the shock that is upon her." And much more to the same effect, which, if less important with reference to the question how much Howell Cobb's levies are good for, is significant of the probable tacit assent by the people of Georgia to the passage of Gen. Sherman. The State has always been noted for lukewarmness in the Rebellion. Georgia troops are not deemed much more trustworthy than those from North Carolina. The State contains many Northerners, and is imbued with much of the manufacturing and commercial spirit which those emigrants carried with them from their busy homes in New-England. Such a people will not be swift to destroy their property at the approach of an army which they are more than half inclined to regard with friendly feelings. They are not the people to burn provisions over a breadth of fifty or a hundred miles—for Gen. Sherman's long arm is likely to reach in some cases even to the latter extent, and it will be impossible to anticipate his arrival and to make barren the country through which he shall pass, unless almost the whole of Southern Georgia is laid waste. We do not believe its inhabitants capable of or disposed for such wholesale destruction of their property. If, on the other hand, an attempt is made, as suggested by one of the Richmond papers, to enforce by military authority, or by help of what is called a law, a measure of such reckless desperation as this would be, it is likely to be met by general resistance, and to convert the present indifference of the Georgians into active hostility to the Richmond Government. And we may assume, in estimating the difficulties of Sherman's march, that his course lies among two populations, perhaps nearly equal in num-

bers, one of which, the negro, will enthusiastically help him, while the other will but coldly oppose his progress. Indeed, if Richmond has nothing better to console herself with than the Georgia militia, there will shortly be weeping and wailing and gnashing of teeth in that pestilent city.

We consider it by no means improbable that Lee will contract his line of defenses near Richmond soon enough to spare some troops to operate against Sherman. Such a movement is foreshadowed in various ways, but the intimations to that effect thrown out in Rebel and Anglo-Rebel organs are less significant than the considerations of absolute necessity which dictate such an attempt. When it is made, however, it will not be in the manner now hinted at. Lee, we may be sure, has no intention of sending troops to Macon, nor of seeking merely to harass the march of Gen. Sherman. If he abandons Petersburg and imperils Richmond, he will do it for an object commensurate with such sacrifices, and will seek, at the proper time and place, to interpose between Gen. Sherman and the main object of his expedition. Such an effort, we believe, must fail from inadequacy of resources; but if it is not even made, what remaining hope has the Confederacy of continuing a coherent military power?

THE GREAT WEST.

When Gen. Taylor was chosen President, only sixteen years ago, he did not receive a single Electoral Vote from the States lying north and west of the river Ohio. Abraham Lincoln, favored by the dissensions among his opponents, carried all those States in 1860, some of them by meager majorities, but received scarcely a tenth of the Popular Vote of Missouri. Now, he carries every one of them by generally increased majorities, and Missouri with them by a very decided vote. He has also carried the new State of Nevada, and has large absolute majorities in California and Oregon, where, though he carried their Electors, he had barely two-fifths of the Popular Vote in 1860. His majorities in that great section, which is soon to preponderate in our National councils, may be roughly stated as follows:

Lincoln's Maj.	Electors
Ohio	21
Indiana	13
Illinois	16
Michigan	8
Wisconsin	8
Minnesota	4
Iowa	8
Missouri	11
Kansas	3
Nevada	3
California	5
Oregon	3
Total, 12 States	103

—These States gave an aggregate popular majority against Lincoln in 1860; they now give not less than 240,000 for him, with gains of Members of Congress in every State where there was anything left to gain. And there is no pretense that anything was lost to his adversaries through divisions.

The vote of the North-West is the strongest guaranty yet proffered of the perpetuity of the Union. The alienation of the North-West has been plotted and sought for years. To this end uncounted legions of "Knights of the Golden Circle," "Sons of Liberty," &c., have been organized. To this end, New-England has been persistently defamed and reviled by the basest of her renegade sons. To this end, constant stimulus has been given to Western jealousy and hate of the East. The Puritanism and fanaticism of New-England have been incited as plunging the country into a gigantic civil war for the benefit of her cotton-mills—as if cotton-mills luxuriated in the dearth and dearth of cotton—and now the Great West responds by larger, more decisive majorities for the War, a heartier support to the Administration, than are given in the East. And the rattle of seven fifters in Maryland is more than paralleled by the crash of the prison-house in Missouri.

So let us rest in the confident assurance that the Union will endure forever, under the guardianship and protection of the Great West—Free North-West!

SHERMAN'S ORDER.

The terms and spirit of Gen. Sherman's order of march, which we print this morning, will excite various comment. Probably the Richmond press will quote some paragraphs or sentences, suppressing the rest, with a view to represent it as an order of general pillage and destruction. Probably the London press will do the same thing. But to those who read the whole order, it will seem a singular example of moderation in enforcing the severities of war, in circumstances which might excite the most pitiless exactions. Gen. Sherman directs his army to forage liberally on the country during the march, but that is the ordinary method of supplying troops during their progress through a hostile district. It ought to be, and in this case it is, restricted so far as to be kept within the limits of orderly seizure by regular military authority—and this, not more for the protection of the citizens from indiscriminate pillaging than for the sake of the discipline of the army. Gen. Sherman displays an unwonted solicitude for those who deserve as Rebels no tenderness at his hands by requiring even his regular foraging parties to leave, where it is practicable, subsistence enough for the families from whom they take their supplies of grain. Soldiers are forbidden, also, even to enter the dwellings of the inhabitants, and foraging parties are enjoined to refrain from abusive or threatening language.

But Gen. Sherman, merciful as he is where mercy is possible, means that his march shall be left unmoored by the infernal outrages of guerrilla warfare; and [to that end he establishes the only rule which is practicable in cases of irregular hostilities. He proceeds upon the just theory that the country is responsible for the guerrillas—the latter being a predatory force, without organization and without means of subsistence except such as are furnished by those who sympathize with them, and who must from the nature of the case live near the scene of their operations. It is ordered, therefore, that property is not to

be destroyed where the army marches without opposition; "but should guerrillas or bushwhackers molest our march, or should the inhabitants burn bridges, obstruct roads, or otherwise manifest local hostility, then army corps commanders should order and enforce a devastation more or less relentless, according to the measure of such hostility." Such an order as that is simply a recognition of the necessity of the case, and is justified, if it needed any justification, by the example of military commanders in the long history of European warfare; by Sout in Spain, and by Napoleon in Russia, to take two late instances. And even in the course of this most leniently conducted conflict, there are examples enough which have passed into precedents; and it needs only to mention Missouri, Kentucky, and the Shenandoah Valley, to prove that the Union party considers itself able to tolerate or to uphold the principle of guerrilla warfare.

MEXICO.

The admirers of Maximilian and the Mexican Empire profess to apprehend no dangers to the future of the monarchical institutions in Mexico from foreign enemies. Most of them sympathize with the Rebel Government at Richmond, and are still so sanguine in their hopes regarding the future of the Rebel States, as not to doubt that they will successfully establish their independence, and thus interpose an insuperable barrier to any war by land against Mexico on the part of the United States. They justly suppose that the Government at Richmond would not show the least reluctance to enter into the most amicable relations with the new American monarch. But even if the Federal Union should be restored in its former extent, they believe that the neutrality of Maximilian with regard to our war, the introduction of reforms, and the apparent acquiescence of the majority of Mexicans in the new order of things, would secure to the overtures intended to be made by Maximilian to the United States a honorable hearing. We believe we do not err in supposing that in proportion as the prospects of a speedy suppression of the Rebellion and a restoration of the old Union improve, Maximilian will show himself anxious to appear more an American than a European monarch, to improve his relations with the several American States, and to make the most solemn professions of his devotion to liberal principles.

Whatever may be the fate of these hopes and expectations, there is one danger to the new Empire which appals the most ardent among its supporters; we refer to the disorganization of the finances. A Mexican correspondent of the *Courier des Etats-Unis*—which paper assumes the air of a court journal of Maximilian in the United States—admits that the present condition of the Mexican treasury is wretched enough. The annual expenses, it states, are estimated at about forty millions of piastres. The interest on the public debt, inclusive of the last war and the French indemnity, will alone absorb some thirteen millions annually. The French troops cost the Empire about five millions annually.

Adding to this the expenditures for the troops expected from Austria and Belgium, the court list, the public works, the support of public worship, and the expenses of the other departments, the sum of forty millions is easily reached. A comparison of the revenue to be relied upon, with the budget of expenses, does not afford much hope. The chief source of revenue has thus far been the proceeds of the customs. Now the revenue to be derived from Vera Cruz, the principal port, is not expected to exceed two millions. All the other ports of the kingdom may add to this sum two more millions annually, which would give a total of four millions, or one-tenth of the budget of expenditures. There will be other resources, says this correspondent, but in order to speak of them intelligently it would require a knowledge which is not possessed even by the Minister of Finance. Such being the case, how then, it must be asked, will it be possible to carry on the administration? The correspondent thinks it would be impossible to levy new taxes to make the receipts tally with the expenses, as this would discourage new enterprises and prevent the investment of foreign capital for the development of the resources of the country. The only escape from a financial break down he discovers in new loans. The country must hypothecate the capital, or dispose of one portion, in order to save the whole. Thus, he thinks, new enterprises may be encouraged, immigration invited, the means of communication multiplied, and the immense capital of the Government turned to profit.

The whole article is so obviously written in the interest of foreign capitalists who speculate, like Jecker, of infamous notoriety, upon the financial embarrassments of the Government, that we suspect it of exaggerating rather than underestimating the financial difficulties of the Empire. Supposing the writer's chief statement regarding the budget to be correct, it contains as strong a condemnation of the invasion and the origin of the Empire as could have been written by the most devoted champion of the national cause. In 1855 the annual expenditures of the Mexican Government were estimated at 13,000,000 of piastres; now the invasion and the Empire have raised it to 40,000,000. Fully one-half of this amount the Republican Government would never have had to pay. It embraces the interest on swindling loans like the Jecker bonds, the validity of which no one in Europe or America has ever recognized except the French Government; the cost of the invasion and the payments for French, Austrian and Belgian mercenaries. But for the French invasion, the civil war in Mexico would have long since ceased, and the commerce of Vera Cruz and other ports, would, without fail, have shown the same signs of improvement which are now claimed for it. The annual sum of two millions of piastres, which the French writer now estimates as the amount of the customs of the port of Vera Cruz, is, however, less than what it was in former years: The Gotha Almanac for 1864, at least, gives the following figures for the receipts of the Custom House of Vera Cruz: 1856, 5,028,955 piastres; 1857, 3,435,505; 1858, 2,368,879; 1859, 3,665,988; 1860, 3,440,821. Vera Cruz, if this French cor-

respondent is correct, will owe but little gratitude to Maximilian.

We believe that Mexico, to develop her immense resources, wants a stable government; and we understand why Liberals like Uruga, whose record in the past has been unexceptionable, could be prevailed upon by the power of circumstances to accept the Empire as an accomplished fact. But not less than a stable government, Mexico needs an honest and a National Government. Whether with regard to this Maximilian can raise hopes, as he has undoubtedly done respecting the stability of his government, remains to be seen.

OHIO.

Presidential Election—Majorities on Home Vote.	Lin. Mc.	Col. Chas.
Counties.	Lin. Mc.	Col. Chas.
Adams	244	984
Allen	294	2810
Ashtabula	363	1159
Ashtabula	432	371
Athens	1232	281
Auglaize	1472	309
Belmont	1521	1045
Brown	478	1449
Carr	1193	1100
Champaign	326	1039
Clark	789	8016
Clermont	169	306
Columbiana	280	517
Crawford	1471	348
Cuyahoga	1041	14
Darke	573	190
Delaware	629	740
Franklin	653	1829
Hamilton	1396	756
Harrison	322	635
Henry	1004	590
Jefferson	620	353
Lake	1187	255
Licking	227	209
Madison	395	610
Marion	357	557
Meigs	4148	232
Monroe	401	1589
Morgan	381	350
Muskingum	480	145
Noble	475	662
Paulding	10	372
Perry	1709	1916
Pike	1460	419
Portage	560	436
Putnam	1315	312
Richmond	21	717
Shelby	1912	298
Stark	1298	
Summit	636	53,363,25,711
Tallmadge	836	59,241
Union majority, State election		1,511
Union gain over October election		1,511

The Tenth, Thirteenth and Sixteenth Congressional Districts.

The Soldier vote in these districts (as returned to State Board of Canvassers) is as follows:	Dem.	Rep.	Ashley's
TENTH DISTRICT.	Dem.	Rep.	Ashley's
Adams	190	27	163
Allen	271	63	338
Ashtabula	178	49	136
Athens	472	136	336
Auglaize	110	14	96
Belmont	174	16	189
Brown	781	57	838
Carr	2,150	366	1,784
Champaign	1,784	366	1,418
Clark	1,784	366	1,418
Clermont	1,784	366	1,418
Columbiana	1,784	366	1,418
Crawford	1,784	366	1,418
Cuyahoga	1,784	366	1,418
Darke	1,784	366	1,418
Delaware	1,784	366	1,418
Franklin	1,784	366	1,418
Hamilton	1,784	366	1,418
Harrison	1,784	366	1,418
Henry	1,784	366	1,418
Jefferson	1,784	366	1,418
Lake	1,784	366	1,418
Licking	1,784	366	1,418
Madison	1,784	366	1,418
Marion	1,784	366	1,418
Meigs	1,784	366	1,418
Monroe	1,784	366	1,418
Morgan	1,784	366	1,418
Muskingum	1,784	366	1,418
Noble	1,784	366	1,418
Paulding	1,784	366	1,418
Perry	1,784	366	1,418
Pike	1,784	366	1,418
Portage	1,784	366	1,418
Putnam	1,784	366	1,418
Richmond	1,784	366	1,418
Shelby	1,784	366	1,418
Stark	1,784	366	1,418
Summit	1,784	366	1,418
Tallmadge	1,784	366	1,418
Union majority	1,784	366	1,418

The Fifteenth and Twelfth Congressional Districts.

	Delana Union.	Delana Cop.	Delana Maj.
Crowing election	372	51	328
Knot	318	42	276
Licking	344	50	294
Muskingum	610	26	584
Total	1,634	187	1,447
Deduct Follett's reported maj. on home vote			1,197
Delano's net majority			250

SIXTEENTH DISTRICT.

	Belgian, J. W. White, Republican Union.	Belgian, J. W. White, Republican Cop.	Belgian, J. W. White, Republican Maj.
Belmont	407	58	349
Guernsey	431	72	359
Harrison	216	21	195
Noke	221	32	189
Townships	413	41	372
Total	1,788	224	1,564
Deduct White's reported maj. on home vote			287